

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A sustained release composite comprising a three-dimensional piece of calcium silicate having a ~~xentolite~~ xonotlite structure and which includes fibers of textile glass and borosilicate glass, and a fire starting agent.

2. (Currently Amended) The composite according to claim 1 wherein the calcium silicate in addition to the fire starting agent, contains about 0.5% wood pulp fibers, from about 0.5% to about 1% textile grade glass fibers, and about 1% bentonite clay.

Claim 3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The composite according to claim 3 wherein the fire starting agent is selected from the group consisting of candle wax, mineral spirits, propyleneglycol and mixtures thereof.

Claims 5-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The composite according to claim 1 wherein the composite is packaged in a package made of a material that maintains the active-fire starting agent in the composite until the package is opened.

9. (Currently Amended) The composite according to claim ~~8-13~~ wherein the cylindrical container has a snap on top.

10. (Currently Amended) The composite according to claim ~~9-13~~ wherein the cylindrical container has a snap on top.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a fire starter comprising impregnating a block comprising a three-dimensional piece of calcium silicate having a ~~xentelite~~ xonotlite structure and in which are fibers of textile glass and borosilicate glass with a fire starting material.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 11 wherein the calcium silicate, in addition to the fire starting agent, contains about 0.5% wood pulp fiber, from about 0.5% to about 1% textile grade glass fibers and about 1% bentonite clay.

13. (New) The composite according to claim 8 wherein the package is a cylindrical container.